

(e) APPLICATION OF RECLAMATION REFORM ACT OF 1982.—The Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390aa et seq.) and any other acreage limitation or full-cost pricing provision of Federal law shall not apply to any person, entity, or tract of land solely on the basis of—

(1) receipt of any benefit under this Act;

(2) execution or performance of this Act; or

(3) the use, storage, delivery, lease, or exchange of CAP water.

(f) EFFECT.—

(1) NO MODIFICATION OR PREEMPTION OF OTHER LAW.—Unless expressly provided in this Act, nothing in this Act modifies, conflicts with, preempts, or otherwise affects—

(A) the Boulder Canyon Project Act (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.);

(B) the Boulder Canyon Project Adjustment Act (43 U.S.C. 618 et seq.);

(C) the Act of April 11, 1956 (commonly known as the “Colorado River Storage Project Act”) (43 U.S.C. 620 et seq.);

(D) the Colorado River Basin Project Act (Public Law 90-537; 82 Stat. 885);

(E) the Treaty between the United States of America and Mexico respecting utilization of waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande, signed at Washington February 3, 1944 (59 Stat. 1219);

(F) the Colorado River Compact;

(G) the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact;

(H) the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 991); or

(I) case law concerning water rights in the Colorado River system other than any case to enforce the Hualapai Tribe water rights settlement agreement or this Act.

(2) EFFECT ON AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this Act or the Hualapai Tribe water rights settlement agreement limits the right of the Hualapai Tribe to enter into any agreement for the storage or banking of water in accordance with State law with—

(A) the Arizona Water Banking Authority (or a successor agency or entity); or

(B) any other lawful authority.

(3) EFFECT OF ACT.—Nothing in this Act—

(A) quantifies or otherwise affects the water rights, claims, or entitlements to water of any Indian Tribe other than the Hualapai Tribe;

(B) affects the ability of the United States to take action on behalf of any Indian Tribe other than the Hualapai Tribe, the members of the Hualapai Tribe, and the allottees; or

(C) limits the right of the Hualapai Tribe to use any water of the Hualapai Tribe in any location on the Hualapai Reservation.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn; the Schatz substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 6547) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill (S. 4104), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. SCHATZ. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Mr. KELLY assumed the Chair.)

(Mr. OSSOFF assumed the Chair.)

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HOUSE BILLS

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills, which were received from the House, en bloc: H.R. 6427, H.R. 7735, H.R. 8260.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the bills, en bloc, be considered read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RED RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE BOUNDARY MODIFICATION ACT

A bill (H.R. 6427) to amend the Red River National Wildlife Refuge Act to modify the boundary of the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE VA HOME LOAN BENEFIT ACT OF 2022

A bill (H.R. 7735) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the appraisal requirements for certain loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

FASTER PAYMENTS TO VETERANS’ SURVIVORS ACT OF 2022

A bill (H.R. 8260) to amend title 38, United States Code, to shorten the timeframe for designation of benefits under Department of Veterans Affairs life insurance programs, to improve the treatment of undisbursed life insurance benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SALINE LAKE ECOSYSTEMS IN THE GREAT BASIN STATES PROGRAM ACT OF 2022

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 1466.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1466) entitled “An Act to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to establish a regional program to assess, monitor, and benefit the hydrology of saline lakes in the Great Basin and the migratory birds and other wildlife dependent on those habitats, and for other purposes.”, do pass with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. KELLY. I move to concur in the House amendment, and I ask unanimous consent that the motion be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE CALENDAR

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be discharged and that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills en bloc: H.R. 6064, H.R. 6604, H.R. 6961, H.R. 7299, H.R. 7335, and S. 4949.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the bills, en bloc, be considered read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO SEEK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE FOR A REVIEW OF EXAMINATIONS, FURNISHED BY THE SECRETARY, TO INDIVIDUALS WHO SUBMIT CLAIMS TO THE SECRETARY FOR COMPENSATION UNDER CHAPTER 11 OF TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE, FOR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITIONS LINKED TO MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA

A bill (H.R. 6064) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for a review of examinations, furnished by the Secretary, to individuals who submit claims to the Secretary for compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, for mental and physical conditions linked to military sexual trauma was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

VETERANS ELIGIBLE TO TRANSFER SCHOOL (VETS) CREDIT ACT

A bill (H.R. 6604) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the method by which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines the effects of

a closure or disapproval of an educational institution on individuals who do not transfer credits from such institution was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AMENDING TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE, TO IMPROVE HEARINGS BEFORE THE BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS REGARDING CLAIMS INVOLVING MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA

A bill (H.R. 6961) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve hearings before the Board of Veterans' Appeals regarding claims involving military sexual trauma was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

STRENGTHENING VA CYBERSECURITY ACT OF 2022

A bill (H.R. 7299) to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MST CLAIMS COORDINATION ACT

A bill (H.R. 7335) to improve coordination between the Veterans Health Administration and the Veterans Benefits Administration with respect to claims for compensation arising from military sexual trauma, and for other purposes was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL CEMETERIES PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2022

A bill (S. 4949) to amend title 38, United States Code, to address green burial sections in national cemeteries, and for other purposes was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 4949

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Cemeteries Preservation and Protection Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. PLOT AND INTERMENT ALLOWANCES FOR VETERANS BURIED BEFORE MARCH 15, 2022, IN CEMETERIES ON TRUST LAND OWNED BY, OR HELD IN TRUST FOR, TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pay a plot or interment allowance under paragraph (1) of section 2303(b) of title 38, United States Code, for a veteran if—

(1) the veteran was buried, before March 15, 2022, in a cemetery, or in a section of a cemetery, that is on trust land owned by, or held in trust for, a tribal organization;

(2) the tribal organization that is responsible for operating and maintaining the cem-

etry, or the section of cemetery, applies for such allowance;

(3) a plot or interment allowance was not already paid for the burial of such veteran under paragraph (2) of such section; and

(4) the burial of the veteran otherwise meets the requirements under paragraph (1) of such section.

SEC. 3. GREEN BURIAL SECTIONS AT NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

Section 2404 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) in the case of grave sites in a green burial section designated under subsection (i), the Secretary may provide for grave markers of such type as the Secretary considers appropriate.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(1)(1) The Secretary may designate one or more sections in any national cemetery as green burial sections.

“(2) In this subsection, the term ‘green burial section’ means a section of a cemetery in which the remains of individuals interred in that section—

“(A) have been prepared for interment in a manner that does not involve chemicals or embalming fluids; and

“(B) have been interred in a natural manner or in completely biodegradable burial receptacles.”.

SEC. 4. TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION OVER LAND AT FORT BLISS, TEXAS, FOR EXPANSION OF FORT BLISS NATIONAL CEMETERY.

(a) TRANSFER AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of the Army may transfer to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs administrative jurisdiction over a parcel of real property consisting of approximately two acres located at Fort Bliss, Texas, directly adjacent to, and contiguous with, Fort Bliss National Cemetery.

(b) CONDITION OF TRANSFER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the transfer authorized by subsection (a), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may complete appropriate environmental, cultural resource, and other due diligence activities on the real property described in subsection (c) before determining whether the property is suitable for cemetery purposes.

(2) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall coordinate with the Secretary of the Army as needed during the performance of the activities described in paragraph (1).

(c) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be transferred under this section shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary the Army.

(2) COST OF SURVEY.—The cost of the survey described in paragraph (1) shall be borne by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(d) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS; COSTS OF TRANSFER.—

(1) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of the Army may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the transfer under this section as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall reimburse the Secretary of the Defense for costs incurred by the Secretary of the Army in implementing this section, including the costs of any surveys.

(B) NO PAYMENT FOR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY.—Notwithstanding any other legal re-

quirement that might otherwise apply, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall not be required to make payment of any kind for the value of the real property described in subsection (c).

SEC. 5. TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR LAND FOR USE AS A NATIONAL CEMETERY.

Section 2406 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “As additional lands” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—As additional lands”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR LAND FOR USE AS A NATIONAL CEMETERY.—Notwithstanding section 204(d) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1714(d)), if the Secretary and the Secretary of the Interior agree to a transfer under subsection (a) of any land for use by the Department as a national cemetery, the land shall be—

“(1) withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral leasing laws, and the geothermal leasing laws;

“(2) subject to valid existing rights;

“(3) transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and

“(4) deemed to be property (as defined in section 102(9) of title 40) for as long as the land remains under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.”.

SEC. 6. EXPANSION OF PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERMENT OR MEMORIALIZATION IN THE NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION OR ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY OF PERSONS COMMITTING CERTAIN CRIMES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2411 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading—

(A) by inserting “certain” before “Federal”; and

(B) by striking “capital”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “(42 U.S.C. 16901 et seq.);” and inserting “(34 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.); and”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or to a period of 99 years or more” after “life imprisonment”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) A person who—

“(A) is found (as provided in subsection (c)) to have committed a Federal or State crime that would cause the person to be a tier III sex offender for purposes of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.); but

“(B) has not been convicted of such crime by reason of such person not being available for trial due to death or flight to avoid prosecution.”;

(3) in subsection (c), by striking “subsection (b)(3)” and inserting “paragraph (3) or (5) of subsection (b)”;

(4) in subsection (d)(2)(A)(ii), by striking “or a State capital crime” and inserting “, a State capital crime, or a Federal or State crime that would cause the person to be a tier III sex offender for purposes of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.);” and

(5) in subsection (e)(1)(B), by striking “or a State capital crime” and inserting “, a State capital crime, or a Federal or State crime that would cause the person to be a tier III sex offender for purposes of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 24 of